

**LEPIDOPTERA OF ABERDEENSHIRE, KINCARDINESHIRE
AND BANFFSHIRE - 8th APPENDIX**R.M. PALMER¹, M.R. YOUNG² AND R. LEVERTON³¹*Greenburn Cottage, Bucksburn, Aberdeen AB21 9UA*²*Culterty Field Station, Department of Zoology, University of Aberdeen, Newburgh, Aberdeenshire AB41 6AA*³*Whitewells, Ordiquhill, Cornhill, Banffshire AB45 2HS.*

THREE YEARS SINCE the publication of the last appendix to the list of Lepidoptera of Aberdeenshire and Kincardineshire (Palmer and Young, 1994), comes this 8th appendix.

The inclusion of Banffshire at this late stage in the publication is prompted by the observation of the Banffshire-based lepidopterist (RL) that we should attempt to bring together the lists of the four Watsonian vice-counties generally regarded as constituting north-east Scotland. Alone amongst these, the published list of Banffshire includes only the macrolepidoptera (Barbour, 1976; updated by Leverton, 1993).

This Appendix has several aims. The first is to update the Aberdeenshire/Kincardineshire list; twelve species are added, two of which are adventitious species. Secondly, microlepidoptera which are new to the combined region of north-east Scotland are listed. To produce a full list of Banffshire micros seems a waste of space since, of the 230 species recorded there, only eight have not been recorded in vice-counties 91-93. Furthermore, the VC 94 list is far from complete; there are for example, no records of the genus *Parornix* from VC 94 and only 13 Nepticulidae compared with 39 in VC 92. Therefore, we include here only a list of the microlepidoptera found in VC 94 but not, as yet in VCs 91-93. (Any reader who wishes a full list of the microlepidoptera of Banffshire is most welcome to write to RMP). Thirdly, we mention additional records of rare species or species which appear to be extending their range, for example those being recorded in inland sites for the first time. Finally, there is a list of new records for vice counties 91-93 and a correction to the previous *Appendix*.

1. New species to north-east Scotland (VCs 91-94)**Gracillariidae**

Parornix devoniella Stt. VC 92: near Monymusk; larvae on *Corylus*, 1994 (J.R. Langmaid). VC 93: Gight woods, larvae on *Corylus*.

Oecophoridae

Agonopteryx liturosa Haw. VC 91: St. Cyrus NNR bred from larvae on *Hypericum*, 1996 (JRL).

Tortricidae

Cydia pomonella L. VC 92: Aberdeen one (Trail, 1878); VC 93: Peterhead, one 23 July 1996 (M. Innes).

Pyralidae

Margaritia sticticalis L. V.C. 92: Braemar, one (Trail, 1878); VC 93: one at Oldmeldrum, 1995; VC 94: four recorded at Ordiquhill, 1995 (one), 1996 (three), all at mv and one netted at Whitehills in 1995.

Udea prunalis D.& S. VC 92: Inverurie (Reid; 1893); Monymusk, several at the Rothamsted trap run by J. and M. Bailey 1994-1996.

Pterophoridae

Capperia britanniodactyla Gregs. VC 92: Rinabaich near Ballater, 1994 and 1995.

Papilionidae

Iphiclides podalirius Scop. VC 92: a single worn specimen of this species was taken in a greenhouse in Dyce by Mr and Mrs R. Clark. The specimen is believed to have been imported with a consignment of cut flowers.

Geometridae

Epirrita christyi Allen VC 91: Glen Saugh Rothamsted trap, several in 1995 (A. Riley).

Arctiidae

Hypercompe scribonia Stoll. VC 92: a specimen at Aberdeen docks, 1994. An adventitious species from the USA (Young, 1995; Honey & Young, *Ent. Rec.* **109**: 25-27).

Noctuidae

Apamea ophiogramma Esp. VC 93: Oldmeldrum, two; Loch of Strathbeg, one, all at mv in 1996. Whether these are migrants or represent a recent colonisation is at present uncertain.

Oligia versicolor Borkh. VC 92: Monymusk Rothamsted trap; one, 1996. The occurrence of one *O. latruncula* D.& S. in Bucksburn the following night is also of note, this is only the second record of this species in north-east Scotland.

Spodoptera exigua Hb. VC 93: Oldmeldrum, one at mv 1996.

2. Species recorded in Banffshire but not in Aberdeenshire or Kincardineshire**Heliozelidae**

Heliozela sericiella Haw. A.M. Emmet 20.vii.1975.

Coleophoridae

Coleophora violacea Strom. Near Tomintoul, larvae on birch, viii.1993 (R. Knill-Jones).

Elachistidae

Elachista triatomea Haw. Near Tomintoul and Banffshire coast viii.1993 (R. K.-J.).

Gelechiidae

Caryocolum viscariella Stt. Cullykhan, bred from (fp) 11.vi.1987.

Tortricidae

Pandemis corylana F. Ordiquhill, one at m.v., 1995. This species is given as common in VCs 91-93 (Reid, 1893) but there are no recent records.

Olethreutes bifasciana Haw. Ordiquhill, one at m.v., 1996.

Apotomis semifasciana Haw. Ordiquhill, one at sugar, one at m.v. on the same night, 7.vii.96.

Cydia splendana Hb. Ordiquhill, one at mv, 1996

3. Additional records of note

The Rothamsted trap at Glen Saugh produced many remarkable records in its first two years of operation (1995-6). *Crambus perlella* Scop., *Catoptria falsella* D.&S. *Phycitodes saxicola* Vaughn., *Semiothisa clathrata* L., *Eilema lurideola* Zinck. and *Omphaloscelis lunosa* Haw. are usually strictly coastal in north-east Scotland; Glen Saugh is the only inland site known in north-east Scotland for all these species with the exception of *O. lunosa*, which appears to be extending its range and is also recorded inland in VC 93 (Oldmeldrum, 1995) and VC 92 (Bucksburn, one in 1995 and 1996).

Pyralidae

Catoptria permutatella H.-S. is a notable species, confined to north and east Scotland. It is widely distributed in Aberdeenshire, mostly in the river valleys. On Deeside it is found from the highland village of Braemar right down to the suburbs of the City of Aberdeen itself. In Banffshire it is recorded occasionally at Ordiquhill and singly in other localities.

Eurrhpara hortulata L. A single specimen taken at the Rothamsted trap at Monymusk VC 92, is only the second record from north-east Scotland.

Geometridae

Eulithis mellinata Fabr. is now very scarce nationally. It is worth recording single specimens in VC 93 at Oldmeldrum and VC 94 at Ordiquhill in 1996.

Noctuidae

Enargia paleacea Esp. In addition to the resident form of this species, which has now been recorded from VC 91 (Banchory, 1994), the migratory form was taken at the Sands of Forvie NNR in 1995.

4. New vice-county records

New to VC 91: *Stigmella assimilella* Zell.; *Phyllonorycter froelichiella* Zell.; *Synanthedon culiciformis* L. There is also an old record to add to VC 91; JRL has informed us of a specimen of *Agonoptyx yeatiana* Fabr., in the British Museum labelled 'Adkin coll. J.E. Gardner Stonehaven; 20.viii.1913'.

New to VC 92: *Caloptilia stigmatella* Fabr.; *Argyresthia spinosella* Stt..

New to VC 93: *Ocnerostoma friesei* Svens.; *Biselachista albidella* Nyl.; *Hysterophora maculosana* Haw.

Species now recorded from VCs 91-93: *Stigmella myrtillella* Stt.; *S. luteella* Stt.; *S. alnetella* Stt.; *Incurvaria oehlmanniella* Hb.; *Lampronia rubiella* Bjerk.; *Nematopogon swammerdamella* L.; *Yponomeuta padella* L.; *Coleophora discordella* Zell.; *Borkhausenia fuscescens* Haw.; *Semioscopis avellanella* Hb.; *Teleiopsis diffinis* Haw.; *Bryotropha galbanella* Zell.; *Blastobasis lignea* Wals.; *Aethes smeathmanniana* F.; *Aphelia viburnana* D.& S.; *Philedone gerningana* D.& S.; *Hedya atropunctana* Zett.; *Aphomia sociella* L.

Correction

Epiblema tetragonana Steph. A record of this species from Elfhill VC 91 is an error; the correct identification of this moth is at present uncertain.

References

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Correction to list of Greek butterflies

On 25 July 1992, a male Lycaenid butterfly was caught at 1650 metres on the Xérocamos Plateau of Mount Chelmos (Wakeham-Dawson, 1997. Some notable butterfly records from Greece in 1992 and 1995. *Ent. Rec.* **109**: 199-203). As it is very similar to specimens of *Polyommatus eros* Ochseneheimer that fly in the Central Pyrenees, it was tentatively classified as *P. eros menelaos* Brown (the subspecies of *eros* that flies in Greece). However, *menelaos* is a bright sky blue butterfly that is only known from the Taygetos mountains. Many authors consider it to be sufficiently different from *eros* to justify giving it specific status (eg. Carbonell, 1994. Contribution à la connaissance du genre *Polyommatus* Latreille, 1804: le complex ultraspécific de *Polyommatus eros-eroides* au Moyen-Orient et en Transcaucasie (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) (2ème partie: diagnose et discussion). *Linn. Belg.* **14**: 439-454).

Examination of the genitalia (Fig. 1) of the specimen from Mount Chelmos suggests that it is most probably a dwarf example of *Lysandra coridon graeca* Rühl-Heyne, with a much reduced black submarginal border that makes the wings appear more blue than usual in this species, and worn underside markings that superficially appear more similar to genus *Polyommatus* than to genus *Lysandra*. Therefore the record of *eros* from Mount Chelmos is incorrect.